

Nebraska Weather & Crops

 $Issue\ NE-CW3003, released\ July\ 28, 2003, by\ the\ Nebraska\ Agricultural\ Statistics\ Service, USDA\ .\ For\ more\ information\ contact\ us\ at:\ 100\ Centennial\ Mall\ North,\ Suite\ 298,\ Lincoln,\ NE\ 68508,\ 402-437-5541\ or\ e-mail\ at\ nass-ne@nass.usda.gov.\ Homepage\ -\ http://www.usda.gov/nass/.$

Agricultural Summary: For the week ending July 27, 2003, temperatures near or above the 100 degree mark and limited rainfall pushed wheat harvest to near completion but continued to stress dryland crops and pastures, according to USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation systems continued in full use, however, dryland crop conditions were significantly lower due to heat and moisture stress. Grasshoppers and other pests continue to be a source of producer concern.

Weather Summary: Temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below in the northeast to 5 degrees above normals in the Panhandle. Precipitation was scattered across the state with amounts mostly less than half an inch.

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable:

Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2003							
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Aver- age			
		Per	rcent				
Topsoil							
Very Short	27	19	73	24			
Short	44	42	21	30			
Adequate	29	39	6	44			
Surplus	0	0	0	2			
Subsoil							
Very Short	27	17	74	27			
Short	42	45	23	27			
Adequate	31	38	3	46			
Surplus	0	0	0	0			
Days Suitable	6.8	6.9	6.6	5.7			

Field Crops Report: Corn condition declined and rated 3 percent very poor, 8 poor, 28 fair, 42 good, and 19 excellent, above last year but slightly below average. Both irrigated and dryland corn declined with irrigated fields rating 77 percent good and excellent and dryland at 40. Fields were 78 percent silked, near last year at 77 but behind average at 81. Seven percent had reached the dough stage, behind last year at 21 and average at 12.

Soybean condition declined and rated 3 percent very poor, 9 poor, 34 fair, 45 good, and 9 excellent, above last year and near average. Seventy-four percent of the fields were blooming, behind last year at 86 and average at 80. Fields were setting pods on 12 percent of the acreage, behind 37 last year and 28 average.

Oat harvest for grain progressed to 79 percent combined, behind last year at 90 but ahead of average at 76.

WHEAT % HARVESTED 100 80 60 40 20 0 6/22 7/13 7/27 8/3 6/29 7/6 7/20 5 YEAR AV - 2002 → 2003 PROGRESS AS OF SUNDAY

Sorghum condition declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 11 poor, 45 fair, 38 good, and 2 excellent, above last year but below average. Twelve percent of the acreage was headed, behind last year at 28 and average at 24.

Wheat harvest made excellent progress again last week with 95 percent of the acreage combined, behind last year at 98 but ahead of average at 94.

Dry bean condition rated 2 percent very poor, 8 poor, 29 fair, 52 good, and 9 excellent. Seventy-two percent of the fields were blooming, ahead of last year at 52 and average at 61. Twenty percent had set pods, ahead of last year at 17 and average at 16.

Alfalfa condition declined and rated 4 percent very poor, 15 poor, 35 fair, 37 good, and 9 excellent, above last year and same as average. Second cutting activities progressed to 94 percent harvested, behind last year at 96 but ahead of average at 92. Third cutting activities were underway with 5 percent harvested, behind last year at 23 and average at 9. A number of reports indicated limited regrowth was expected due to dry conditions. Wild hay condition declined and rated 5 percent very poor, 11 poor, 34 fair, 44 good, and 6 excellent.

Crop Progress: Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2003

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Aver- age		
		Percent				
Corn Silked	78	41	77	81		
Corn Dough	7	1	21	12		
Soybeans Blooming	74	49	86	80		
Soybeans Setting Pods	12	3	37	28		
Oats Harvested	79	47	90	76		
Sorghum Headed	12	3	28	24		
Wheat Harvested	95	84	98	94		
Alfalfa 2nd Cutting	94	79	96	92		
Alfalfa 3 rd Cutting	5	0	23	9		

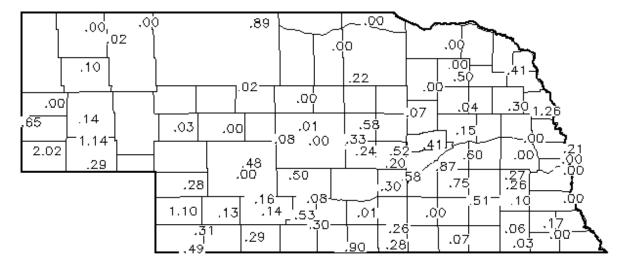
Crop Condition: Nebraska, Week Ending July 27, 2003

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	Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel- lent			
<u> </u>		Percent							
Corn		3	8	28	42	19			
Soybe	an	3	9	34	45	9			
Sorgh	um	4	11	45	38	2			
Dry B	ean	2	8	29	52	9			
Alfalfa	a	4	15	35	37	9			
Wild I	Hay	5	11	34	44	6			

Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition declined and rated 11 percent very poor, 22 poor, 36 fair, 29 good, and 2 excellent, above last year but below average. Triple digit temperatures stressed livestock.

This release is based on data from FSA county directors, county extension educators, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. County comments and reports can be found at: http://www.nass.usda.gov/ne/cropwthr/cmts cur.htm

Precipitation in Inches for Week Ending July 27, 2003



Precipitation: By District, Nebraska, April 1 - July 27, 2003

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Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.68	.23	.34	.29	.25	.34	.27	.17
Total since April 1	8.74	12.20	13.91	13.58	13.22	11.39	12.70	14.87
Normal since April 1	9.84	11.75	13.42	12.71	13.93	11.40	12.45	14.26
Total as % of normal	88%	104%	103%	107%	94%	99%	102%	104%

Source: High Plains Climate Center data as of 8:00 a.m.

Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, July 27, 2003

	Station			perature	rature Growing Degree I Since April 15			
Station			Extremes		Departure	Last	Current	Normal
2 777 7	A 11.	High	Low			Week	1264	1.455
NW	Alliance	105	57	78 78	+5	165	1364	1477
	Scottsbluff	105	59	78 78	+5	169	1551	1475
	Sidney	105	51	<u>78</u>	+5	162	1428	1512
NC	Ainsworth	105	56	74	-1	154	1487	1627
	Arthur	105	56	75	+1	159	1416	1590
	O'Neill	101	50	74	-2	152	1477	1703
NE	Concord	93	53	72	-4	146	1512	1746
	Elgin	97	52	73	-3	149	1526	1746
	West Point	99	53	74	-3	156	1601	1846
C	Grand Island	98	52	74	-2	157	1627	1768
	Lexington	106	61	77	+2	170	1694	1737
	Ord	98	54	74	-2	153	1559	1754
EC	Lincoln	102	55	78	-1	175	1772	1938
	Central City	99	52	73	-3	151	1641	1796
	Mead	101	50	75	-3	159	1669	1911
SW	Champion	110	56	78	+3	160	1565	1630
	North Platte	107	56	77	+2	166	1585	1647
	Curtis	108	57	78	+3	170	1684	1675
SC	Arapahoe	107	55	77	+2	158	1402	1584
	Minden	99	58	76	0	165	1680	1743
	Red Cloud	106	54	79	+2	176	1720	1789
SE	Beatrice	103	53	77	-2	169	1748	1938
	Clay Center	99	53	75	-2	157	1631	1785
	Nemaha	104	55	77	-Ī	174	1856	1962

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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